

NOTICIAS EN ESPAÑOL



Mes de la Historia de las Mujeres: fuente de recursos

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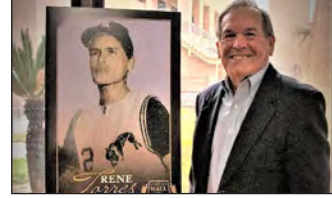
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



Search for School of Art director in progress

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SPORTS



From the sandlot to the Hall of Honor

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Professors give insight on election results

Alejandra Yañez
Omar E. Zapata

THE RIDER

UTRGV political science professors say the March 1 primary netted some “interesting” and “surprising results” in the District 15 U.S. representative and the District 27 state senator races.

With 100% of 233 precincts

in five counties reporting, unofficial results show that in the Democratic primary race for U.S. Representative, District 15, Democrats Ruben Ramirez and Michelle Vallejo are in a runoff after no candidate garnered more than 50% of the votes. Ramirez led the ballot with 9,198 votes, or 28.29%, followed by Vallejo’s 6,547, or 20.13% of the votes.

John Villarreal Rigney, Eliza Alvarado, Vanessa Stephanie Tijerina and Julio Garza also ran.

Runoffs for the primary election are scheduled for May 24.

Monica De La Cruz won the Republican nomination for District 15 with 16,801 votes or 56.54%. Mauro Garza, Ryan See **RESULTS**, Page 8



THE RIDER FILE PHOTO

JUMP-STARTING CAREERS



Roxanna Miranda/THE RIDER

Interdisciplinary studies senior Paulina Zamora (left) receives information about H-E-B careers during the UTRGV Spring 2022 Career & Internship Expo, which was held last Thursday in the Student Union’s PlainsCapital Bank El Gran Salón on the Brownsville campus. Also shown are H-E-B representatives Brittany Cavazos (center) and Debbie Bickerton.

Starship prototype for public display in the works

Brigitte Ortiz
THE RIDER

SpaceX founder Elon Musk and officials from the Brownsville South Padre Island International Airport have discussed on Twitter the possible placement of a Starship prototype near the airport.

The airport would be a good location as it “serves both communities,” Musk tweeted on Feb. 21.

Francisco Partida, interim assistant director for the Brownsville South Padre Island International Airport, said, according to Starbase engineers, the research and development and the iterations of the Starship

See **SPACEX**, Page 3



Roxanna Miranda/THE RIDER PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

15 positives at UTRGV

Natalie Lapsley
THE RIDER

UTRGV reported 15 new COVID-19 cases between Feb. 18 and 24, according to a university official.

Doug Arney, vice president for Administrative Support Services and chair of the Infectious Disease Committee at UTRGV, said among the 15 were six students, five staff and four faculty members.

UTRGV updates the number of cases reported for campus individuals weekly through the Confirmed Cases Dashboard. The university’s COVID-19 response team provides the numbers on its website.

Arney said one of the six students was in on-campus isolation housing the week of Feb. 18 to 24.

Hidalgo and Cameron counties continue to report COVID-19 cases.

Hidalgo County reported 1,633 cases between Feb. 25 and March 3, raising its total to 166,056, according to its website.

The county reported 31 deaths between Feb. 25 and March 3, raising its death toll to

See **COVID**, Page 2

COVID-19 CASES UPDATE

UTRGV From Feb. 18-24		
4 Faculty	6 Students	5 Staff

Cameron County From Feb. 24 to March 2	
372 Additional cases	72,888 Total

Hidalgo County From Feb. 25 to March 3	
1,633 Additional cases	166,056 Total

Roxanna Miranda/THE RIDER GRAPHIC

THE
RIDER

The Rider is the official, award-winning student newspaper of the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. The newspaper is widely distributed on and off campus in Brownsville and Edinburg, Texas. Views presented are those of the writers and do not reflect those of the newspaper or university.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

 **Today K.I.S.S. Meeting**
The **Korean International Student Society** will conduct a **general meeting**

from 2 to 3:15 p.m. today and from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Tuesday in Math Building Room 2.210 on the Edinburg campus. Students can interact with people who are passionate about **Korean culture, music and language.**

Affinity Space
The **Council for Cultural Activities** and **Center for Student Involvement** will host **Finding Your Familia: Women in STEM Affinity Space** from 1 to 2 p.m. in Music, Science, and Learning Center Room 1.105 on the Brownsville campus and from 5 to 6 p.m. in University Center Room 205 on the Edinburg campus. Affinity spaces are dedicated to bringing people who share similar identities together. The spaces on campus are hosted for students to connect and build community. There will be activities, music and food.

BSM Henna Tattoos
The **Baptist Student Ministry** will give free **henna tattoos** from 3 to 4:15 p.m. today and from 11 a.m. to noon Wednesday in the University Library on the Edinburg campus. Students can get a henna tattoo and learn about its history.

Tuesday 'I Am Woman' Luncheon
The **Civic Engagement Alliance,**

in collaboration with the **Campus Activities Board, Student Union,** and the **Center for Student Involvement,** will hold a **luncheon** with faculty speaker **Dahlia Guerra,** assistant vice president for Public Art and Projects, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the University Ballroom on the Edinburg campus. **Veronica Gonzales,** senior vice president for Government and Community Relations, will speak at the same time in the Student Union's PlainsCapital Bank El Gran Salón on the Brownsville campus. The event will be the first **International Women's Day Luncheon.** Students can converse with UTRGV faculty and administration and learn how they became community advocates.

Innovation Center Tabling
The **Center for Innovation and Commercialization** will hold its first **tabling** from 2 to 6 p.m. in the University Library on the Edinburg campus and from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday in the Student Union on the Brownsville campus. Students will learn about the CIC programs, events and competitions. There will be promotional items and snacks.

Dessert and Coffee Social
Current and prospective **English or Spanish majors and minors** are invited to a **dessert and coffee social** from 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. in Music, Science and Learning Center Room 1.105 on the Brownsville campus. Students may socialize and receive information on programs and fall classes.

Wednesday Spring Break Bingo

The **Campus Activities Board** will host a game of **bingo** from noon to 2 p.m. in the Student Union's PlainsCapital Bank El Gran Salón Room 2.36 on the Brownsville campus and at the same time Thursday in the University Center Ballroom on the Edinburg campus. The winner of each round will win a prize.

Thursday Movie Night

The movie "**Hidden Figures**" will be screened from 7 to 9 p.m. in Music, Science and Learning Center Room 1.105 on the Brownsville campus and at the same time in Student Academic Center Room 1.112 on the Edinburg campus. "Hidden Figures" tells the story of three brilliant African American women at NASA--Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan and Mary Jackson--who serve as the brains behind the launch of astronaut John Glenn into orbit, a stunning achievement that restored the nation's confidence and amazed the world. The event is part of UTRGV's celebration of **Women's History Month.**

Friday Talent Show

The **Campus Activities Board** will host its first **Vaqueros got Talent show** at 3 p.m. March 28 in the Student Union Theater on the Edinburg campus. Students have until Friday to sign up online.

--Compiled by Diana Alvarez-Tovar

POLICE REPORTS

The following are among the incidents reported to University Police between Feb. 23 and March 2.



Feb. 23

8:02 a.m.: An officer conducted a welfare check on a student residing at Unity Hall on the Edinburg campus due to her not having any contact with her family since Feb. 18. The officer contacted the student and confirmed she was OK. A report was generated for documentation purposes.

3:47 p.m.: A staff member reported falling down a stairwell at Performing Arts Complex Building B on the Edinburg campus and striking her head on the ground. The staff member was subsequently transported by a faculty member to the Rio Grande Regional Hospital emergency room to be treated for her injuries. A report was taken for information purposes.

8:33 p.m.: An officer was dispatched to the Science Complex on the Edinburg campus in reference to a student who, while dissecting a cat for a project, accidentally cut her hand with the scalpel. Emergency medical services arrived at the scene and transported the student to the Edinburg Regional Hospital for further medical evaluation.

Feb. 24
12:11 a.m.: UTRGV Police Communications informed officers of crossing activity that was observed via cameras at the U.S. border fence by Lot B-1 on the Brownsville campus.

An officer responded and assisted a U.S. Border Patrol agent in searching the area. The agent subsequently took custody of nine men without incident. Seven were from Mexico, one from Honduras and the other from El Salvador.

4:04 p.m.: A staff member working at the Science Complex on the Edinburg campus reported receiving a concerning email from a former student. An officer concluded the context of the email did not meet any criminal elements. A report was generated for documentation purposes.

Feb. 28

8:18 a.m.: A student reported receiving an email in reference to an internship part-time job. The student reported she became a victim of a scam and suffered monetary loss. The student reported the incident to the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Department due to her receiving the email while at her off-campus residence in Edinburg.

3:23 p.m.: A staff member reported items were stolen from his assigned UTRGV work vehicle. The items were stolen between 3 p.m. Feb. 22 and 4 p.m. Feb. 25. During that time, the vehicle had been parked at several locations on the Brownsville campus. The estimated value of the stolen items was \$500.

8:50 p.m.: An officer responded to the Academic and Clinical Research Building on the Harlingen campus in

reference to a non-affiliated elderly man falling at the location. Emergency medical services arrived at the location, but the man declined to be transported. A report was generated for documentation purposes.

March 1

9 p.m.: An officer responded to the Casa Bella Apartments on the Brownsville campus in reference to a disturbance. The investigation revealed a non-affiliated man and a female student had been involved in a verbal argument. The man left the location without incident after being issued a criminal trespass warning. A report was generated for documentation purposes.

March 2

12:04 p.m.: An officer responded to the Science Complex in reference to a non-affiliated man on the Edinburg campus making contact with a female student. An investigation revealed there was a protective order prohibiting the man from communicating with the student. The man left the area before the officer's arrival. The case is under investigation.

5:15 p.m.: The Harlingen Fire Department and an officer responded to the Institute of Neuroscience building on the Harlingen campus in reference to an active fire alarm. The investigation concluded the alarm had been activated due to a faulty smoke detector in the building.

--Compiled by Andrea Flores

COVID

Continued from Page 1

3,814.

The Precinct 4 Endowment Center will continue to provide free PCR testing services from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 107 N. Sunflower Road in Edinburg, according to county officials. There is no end date to these services.

The Rider emailed Carlos Sanchez, director of Public Affairs for Hidalgo County, to discuss hospitalization rates and testing site details. As of press time, there was no response.

Cameron County reported 372 cases between Feb. 24 and March 2, raising

its total to 72,888 cases, according to its website.

The county reported 20 deaths between Feb. 24 and March 2, raising the

VISIT [UTRGV.EDU/COMMITMENT](https://utrgv.edu/commitment)
TO VIEW THE
COVID-19 DASHBOARD

county's death toll to 2,184.

Last Wednesday, county officials announced that the Texas Homeowner Assistance Fund is now available for those who have experienced financial hardships due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The program, funded under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, is available to assist eligible Texas homeowners, according to the

county's website.

In order to receive assistance, individuals must meet the following criteria:

--have fallen behind on a mortgage loan, property tax, property insurance and/or homeowner association or condo payments.

--have a household income at or below 100% of the area median income or 100% of the median income nationwide.

--own and occupy a home in Texas as a primary residence.

--experience a financial hardship after Jan. 21, 2020, including lost income or increased expenses due to the pandemic.

Texas homeowners must visit texashomeownerassistance.com to submit an application.

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WOULD YOU RATHER PAUSE TIME OR REWIND TIME?
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--50% Rewind time
Visit us online at utrgvrider.com to participate →

Women’s History Month: campus resources

Fatima Gamez Lopez
SPANISH EDITOR

With Women’s History Month underway, university officials say it is important for women to take care of their health and celebrate their achievements.

Whether it is a health need or a desire to learn about their gender’s achievements, UTRGV offers a variety of resources for women.

UT Health RGV Student Health provides health care resources by providing accessible, confidential and cost-effective women’s health services. “We have what’s called a women’s health package, which includes some laboratory work and some education and the woman’s first exam or follow-up exam as recommended by the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology,” said Rick Gray, a registered nurse and director of Health Services. “We also have [an] in-house pharmacy that supplies most contraceptives for a minimal price.”

UT Health RGV Student Health provides Pap smears, family planning education and counseling, treatment of sexually transmitted diseases and pregnancy testing.

Gray said most of the services are inexpensive.

“They are not completely free, but most of these services are marginal cost because we only charge for labs or pharmacy items that may be needed,” he said.

Gray cited the women’s package as an example.

“I think the entire package for women’s exams, we’ll say, a Pap smear and some screening cultures and the blood work is \$65,” he said. “Currently, the clinic itself does not accept insurance but, if they want, depending on what their need is, we can refer them to any of the other 25 clinics that the School of Medicine has operating in the area with a specialist that can meet their needs.”

Gray said the clinic does not collect any money since the charges are posted to the student’s account and can be paid through ASSIST.

Students must schedule an appointment by calling 882-3896 for the clinic in Brownsville, which is located in Cortez Hall 237 on the Texas Southmost College campus, or 665-2511 for the clinic in Edinburg, which is located at 613 N. Sugar Road, next to the UREC.

Gray said it is important for women to learn to take care of their health at an early age to prevent long-term problems. He said the clinic offers free resources that are available for students.



Fatima Gamez Lopez/THE RIDER

The University Library will commemorate Women’s History Month with a poster exhibit, short film recommendations and more. For more information, visit the library website.

“I think, as a woman, it is important to celebrate International Women’s Day, because, again, it goes back to all of the history that has happened to women, and how far we’ve come along.”

--Raquel Estrada

Acquisition & Collection Development librarian

Myriam Delgadillo also said it is important for women to take care of their health.

“I think it’s important for women to take care of their health because it makes us be strong and healthy and we will have the energy to continue going to school and other events,” Delgadillo said. “I saw this sign in my doctor’s office and it said, ‘You are what you eat and depending on what you eat, you’ll feel better about yourself.’”

She said that it is important to know the resources that the school offers since they can help students.

Gray said the UT Health RGV

Student Health also provides the 24 Hour Nurse Advice Line.

“The 24 Hour Nurse Advice Line is an after-hours call center, where if a student has a question, they can call [(855) 810-4457],” he said. “[The service] is by a third-party vendor that we contract with and is staffed by registered nurses that we have filled them in on what all of our local resources are.”

Gray said the nurses will help the students during the call.

He said students pay a medical service fee each semester.

“We never charge an office visit,” Gray said. “All we do is try to recover what it costs us to get lab and pharmacy items done. As their clinic, they should use it as much as they need.”

For more information, visit the UT Health RGV Student Health website.

Library resources

This month, the University Library will organize events, discussions and resources for women.

The library will host a Get Lit! Bring Your Own Book club at 3:30 p.m. March 24 via Zoom, where students can share their book recommendations for Women’s History Month. Throughout the month, the library will display a collection of posters on both campuses that include short

film recommendations, QR codes for streaming videos, ebooks, print books, juvenile books and regional material.

“We have a LibGuide that we created for Women’s History Month and in it, we kind of are showcasing some of the different types of resources,” said Raquel Estrada, Acquisition & Collection Development librarian. “We have ebooks, print books, streaming media, examples of some of our databases and journals [and] examples of some of our regional materials.”

She said the purpose of the LibGuide is to inspire personal growth, personal development and stimulate intellectual curiosity in students. For more information, visit the library website.

“It helps [to] understand the history of, you know, where we have been, where we are going,” Estrada said.

“During Women’s History Month, we want to showcase some of what we have because there could be someone that might be interested in, maybe, a particular topic, and they don’t know that we have materials in that particular topic, or they may be interested in maybe reading something for leisure.”

Estrada said it is important to celebrate the achievements of women.

“I think as a woman, it is important to celebrate International Women’s Day, because, again, it goes back to all of the history that has happened to women, and how far we’ve come along,” she said. “This should be for all women in every part of the world. You know, some of them are still struggling. So, you know, it’s always good to show support.”

SPACEX
Continued from Page 1

move so fast that some of the Starships are starting to become obsolete by SpaceX standards.

“So we said, ‘Well, OK. ... What [will it] take to get one of those to display somewhere?’ You know, we’re part of the City of Brownsville,” Partida said. “And [they] said, ‘Well, I mean, it is expensive technology and it’s not that easy,’ and we left it at that. So it was interesting that 10 days after ... this conversation unfolded via Twitter.”

When the airport added the new terminal last year, a road was named Starship Road by proclamation of the

City of Brownsville, he said.

“So, you know, that’s why I took that screenshot,” Partida said. “We have the perfect spot, you know, Starship Road and [Musk] said, ‘Sure, I’ll send one over.’ So that’s how it came to be.”

He said having a Starship within city limits signals the cooperation between a governmental entity, like the City of Brownsville and a private entity like SpaceX.

“It’s just an overall positive for the community and SpaceX because at the end of the day, having one of those ... more accessible to the public, I mean, I think it’s great,” Partida said.

The city manager, deputy city manager and assistant city manager

had an initial quick conversation with the Starbase team, and the Brownsville South Padre Island International Airport is awaiting more instructions, he said.

Because of the dimensions of the rocket, it is not going to be easy moving an existing prototype to the new location. Partida said it will take time and engineering to get it done.

The Rider asked Partida how much the transport would cost.

“It’s a local transfer,” he replied. “It just will depend on what type of transportation we have to use, so I’m assuming a couple thousand dollars. Now, I wouldn’t dare guess the engineering that would go behind it to

set it in place because I’m sure we’re going to need some cranes. We’re going to need some concrete footing.”

Partida said the airport is excited to explore the possibility of having a Starship in Brownsville but will also be mindful that there are “quite the steps” to follow before having it displayed.

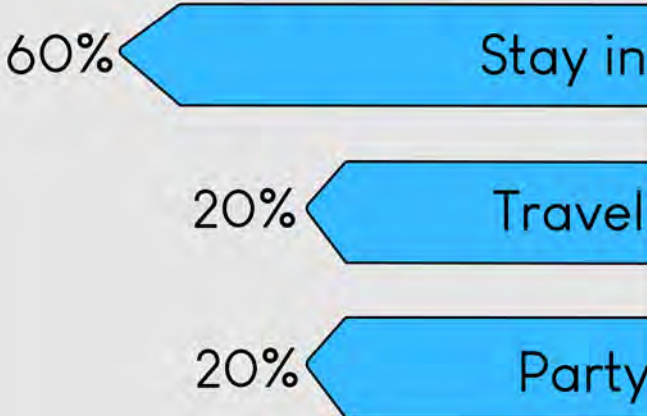
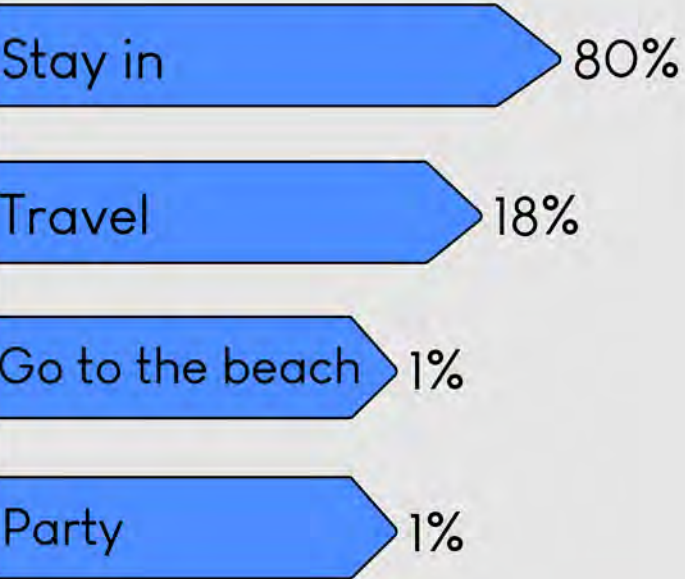
“Anything that stems from this conversation, we’ll definitely keep everyone apprised via press release or media advisory or even social media,” he said. “But we’re a governmental unit. We have to be transparent in something as high profile as this. We will keep everyone apprised of any developments.”



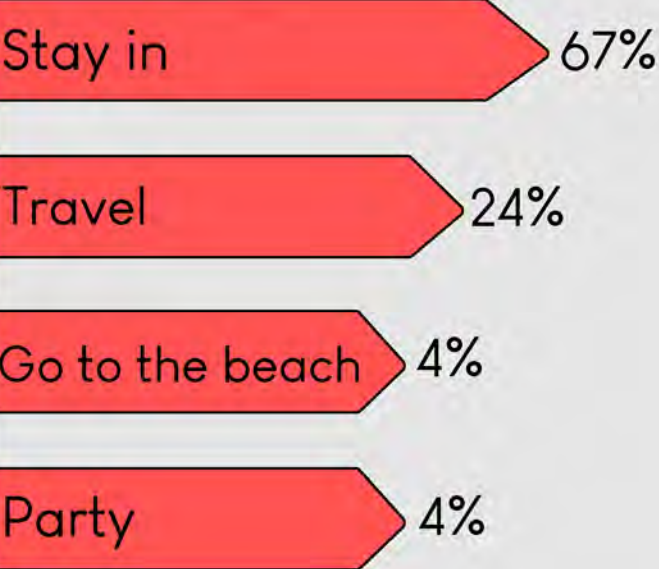
SPRING BREAK PLANS

On March 1, The Rider conducted a poll on social media asking students, “What are your plans for spring break?” The results are shown below.

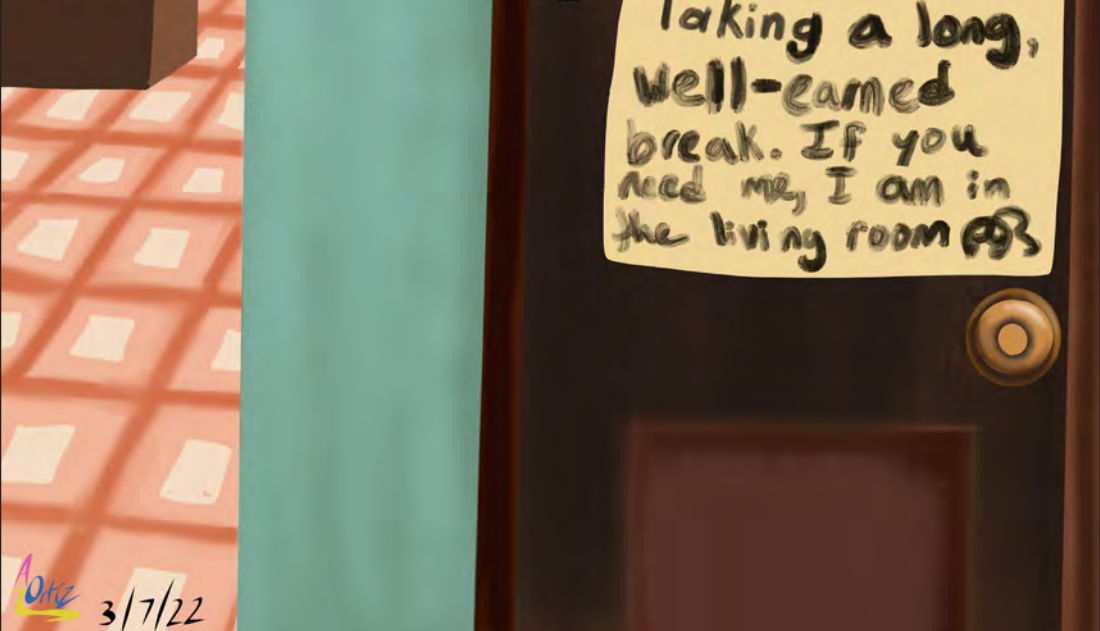
facebook



Instagram



A break in spring break



A much-needed break



Roxanna Miranda
THE RIDER

It’s crazy how we are about to hit the two-year mark of this worldwide pandemic. When I first heard about COVID-19, I chose to not think much of it, and now we can’t go a day without hearing the word.

But anyway, enough of that talk. Spring break is coming up and I think it’s safe to say it’s a well-needed break for all of us. Although my mind is full with the possibilities of what to do during this break, a part of me is thrilled with the thought of getting to sleep past 8 a.m.

Although I’m probably hallucinating, thinking I can go a whole week without worrying about school, especially with Blackboard notifications popping up on my phone screen several times a day, I really want to take this break to reflect on the things I have prioritized this past year. Recently, it seems like life is moving too fast.

With so many deadlines on my mind, I rarely have time to worry about all the other things I told myself I would accomplish this year, so I think spring break is a great opportunity to sit down and see where I stand in life.

Just recently, I got hired for my second part-time job. It’s accomplishments like this that make me realize how far I’ve come since high school graduation, the shift my mindset has made ever since walking into the “real

world.” created this week midway through our spring semesters. Just know we all appreciate it.

I’m also planning to use this time to get back to the routines I had before I started my fall semester last year: Go to the gym, eat healthier, go over my daily schedule and rearrange it to a better one, and by that, I mean having an earlier bedtime.

There is time for everything, they say. And I mean, sure, 24 hours does seem like enough, but sometimes we lose track of time. So I think sitting down and planning out a routine is a good way to keep up with it.

I guess it looks like I’m actually planning to do several things during my spring break, after all. But that, to me, is “rest,” resting from the things I do right now to find the time to include all the other things I wish to do as well.

Maybe this is not the ideal spring break to all. I might even sound “lame” to my high-school self right now. But this is how I want to spend my spring break. Let’s all enjoy it the way we want to. After all, we owe it to ourselves to do so.

“Spring break is coming up and I think it’s safe to say it’s a well-needed break for all of us.”

Today, I got asked what I was planning to do during my spring break. Usual answers are things such as going out of town, partying, etc., but my answer to that was just rest.

Life for college students can become overwhelming at times, especially when hearing the number of exams and things I have to do before graduation. So, thank God for whoever

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Mes de la Historia de las Mujeres: fuente de recursos



Diana Alvarez-Tovar/THE RIDER

UT Health RGV Student Health proporciona recursos de atención médica al brindar servicios de salud que sean accesibles, confidenciales y de bajo costo para mujeres.

Fatima Gamez Lopez EDITORA DE ESPAÑOL

Con el Mes de la Historia de las Mujeres en camino, funcionarios universitarios expresan lo importante que es para las mujeres el cuidar de su salud y de celebrar sus éxitos.

Ya sea por falta de salud o el deseo de aprender sobre los logros de su mismo género, UTRGV ofrece una variedad de recursos para las mujeres.

UT Health RGV Student Health proporciona recursos de atención médica al brindar servicios de salud que sean

accesibles, confidenciales y de bajo costo para mujeres.

“Tenemos algo que se llama “paquete de salud de la mujer” que incluye estudios de laboratorio, educación disponible y el primer examen o examen de seguimiento según lo recomendado por el Colegio Americano de Obstetras y Ginecólogos”, dijo Rick Gray, enfermero titulado y director de *Health Services*. “También tenemos una farmacia que suministra la mayoría de los métodos anticonceptivos a bajo costo”.

UT Health RGV Student Health ofrece pruebas de

Papanicolaou, educación y terapia de planeación familiar, tratamiento para las enfermedades de transmisión sexual, pruebas de embarazo y otros problemas de salud de las mujeres.

Gray dijo que la mayoría de los servicios son económicos.

“No son completamente gratis pero la mayoría son al costo porque solamente cobramos por los exámenes de laboratorio o productos de farmacia que se puedan utilizar”, dijo.

Gray utiliza el paquete de salud de la mujer como un ejemplo.

“Creo que el paquete completo

de salud de la mujer dice algo como prueba de Papanicolaou, cultivo de sangre y pruebas de sangre son \$65”, dijo.

“Actualmente, la clínica no acepta seguro médico, pero si gustan y dependiendo de sus necesidades, podemos recomendar alguna otra de las 25 clínicas que la Facultad de Medicina tenga operando en el área y los especialistas que pueda ayudarlo con sus necesidades”.

Gray dijo que la clínica no recibe dinero en efectivo ya que la factura se registra en la cuenta del estudiante y puede ser pagada por medio de ASSIST.

Los estudiantes necesitan agendar una cita y llamar al 882-3896 para la clínica de Brownsville que está ubicada en Cortez Hall 237 en el campus de Texas Southmost College o 665-2511 para la clínica de Edinburg que está ubicada en 613 N. Sugar Road, a un lado del UREC.

Gray dijo lo importante que es para las mujeres el aprender a cuidar de su salud y bienestar desde una edad temprana para prevenir trastornos de largo plazo. Dijo que la clínica ofrece recursos que están disponibles para los estudiantes.

“Tenemos productos de higiene femenina en la clínica”, dijo. “También los repartimos a otros departamentos en el campus, El Centro Universitario guarda algunos y al igual que los condones siempre son gratis. Lo único que tienen que hacer es ir y tomarlos de los dispensadores en el vestíbulo”.

Myriam Delgadillo, estudiante de primer año en ciencias integradas de la salud, habló de la importancia de cuidar de nuestra salud.

“Creo que es importante para las mujeres de cuidar de su salud porque nos hace más fuertes y saludables para así tener la energía de continuar yendo a la escuela y a otros eventos”, dijo Delgadillo. “Vi un cartel en el consultorio de mi doctor que decía ‘eres lo que comes y dependiendo de lo que comes, te sentirás mejor contigo mismo’”.

Delgadillo dice que es importante el saber de los recursos que la escuela ofrece ya que puede ayudar a los estudiantes.

Gray también habló de la línea telefónica de asesoramiento de enfermería que UTRGV ofrece y que está disponible las 24 horas del día.

“La línea de asesoramiento de enfermería está disponible fuera de horario de oficina, donde si un estudiante tiene una pregunta pueden llamar al [(855) 810-4457]”, dijo. “[Este servicio] es proporcionado por un proveedor con el que tenemos un contrato y está equipado con enfermeras tituladas que pueden ayudar a brindar los recursos locales disponibles”.

Gray dice que los enfermeros pueden ayudar a los estudiantes durante las llamadas.

Dijo que los estudiantes pagan el servicio médico cada semestre.

Ver MES, Página 8

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Search for School of Art director in progress

Brigitte Ortiz
THE RIDER

UTRGV’s School of Art and Design has narrowed the list of candidates for director from eight to four and hopes to fill the position by August.

Joy Esquierdo, interim director, wrote in an email to The Rider last Tuesday, “I will just say that the process is going well, and the School of Art & Design invited four qualified candidates for on-campus interviews.”

“Two have completed their visit/interview and one is pending. The other has not made arrangements yet,” she wrote.

The university opened the application period for the position on Oct. 13.

Esquierdo said the four candidates are Ed Pogue of Bethany College, Vilas Tonape of Methodist University, Christopher Whittey of Columbus State University and Elizabeth Berger, an associate professor and design program coordinator at UTRGV.

Gina Palacios, associate director of the School of Art and an assistant professor in painting and drawing, said Professor Robert Bradley, committee chair, and four other faculty members from each department in the School of

Art and Design are part of the search committee.

Palacios said the committee created a finalist list and invited them for a campus tour and visit.

“With the campus visit, you know, they come in and they have a meeting with the provost or, if she’s not available, the [assistant vice president],” she said. “They meet with the current director, they meet with the dean and they do a research lecture and then also a teaching demo. ... And then they have a formal interview with the search committee.”

Along with the process, the candidates have a meet and greet with students and faculty on the Edinburg and Brownsville campuses.

The meet and greet with students is so the candidates can learn to work with UTRGV’s specific student population, since a lot of the candidates are not from the area, according to Palacios.

“We want students to meet them, see them,” she said. “They’re welcome to come to the teaching demo and research demo and then students can ask questions of them, too,” she said. “So it’s a back and forth between students and the candidate and then the same thing happens with faculty.”

Palacios said the four finalists caught



COURTESY PHOTO

Vilas Tonape, a candidate for director of the UTRGV School of Art and Design, talks to students during his research demonstration on the Brownsville campus. Tonape, of Methodist University, is one of four candidates for the position.

the committee’s attention because of their leadership skills.

“We were looking at the candidates to see if they have, you know, the art background,” she said. “And then also

their leadership skills so had they been a director before, or higher, like a dean, or how long have they had their leadership backgrounds.

See **DIRECTOR**, Page 8

Astrology Rider: Weekly Horoscopes

Danielle Perez
SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR

Aries-A new month has started and it is time for spring cleaning. Cleanse yourself from any bad energy that may be around you. Your season is almost here and it is crucial to be on top of your game. Clear your space and focus on yourself because it is almost showtime.

Leo-Letting go of old trauma is essential when trying to move forward. Sometimes our past may hold us back from our future. Dedicate this new month to rejuvenating yourself and starting anew. Visualize who you want to be and make it happen.

Sagittarius-Your intuition is trying to guide you into the right path. Don’t be surprised if you catch yourself doing things you did not expect. It is all part of the plan. What is meant to happen will happen, Sagittarius. Trust the universe.

Libra-The moon is encouraging you to be more productive and form better habits that will help in the long run. Your creativity is starting to bloom and make a positive impact on you. Keep this energy and do anything new and powerful throughout your hobbies and romances.

Gemini-Helping others and giving compliments is something you may want to start doing. Being on the good side of people will lead to greater lengths, especially in a job setting. Think about your career and where you want to progress.

Aquarius-New freedom and self-esteem will start bursting out of you this week. The energy you are feeling is keeping you on your toes and excites you. Use it to your advantage and attract what you want to get a step closer toward your goals.

Scorpio-The upcoming season will have you feeling different types of ways. Make room to start journaling, reading or watching your favorite films to express yourself. Communicating with others will also help you get what you want and share what’s been building up inside.

Pisces-A boost of confidence and energy will lead to you this week. Clear up your calendar because you will dedicate all your time to yourself. Spring is already motivating you to do more and it hasn’t even started. Imagine how you’ll feel when it does and manifest it.

Cancer-The past months had you feeling restless but as soon as March started you were determined to make a change. Find a balance between your personal life and work or school. Spirit is encouraging you to use meditation, self-care routines or journaling to help you feel better.

Taurus-Making new friends has always been a specialty of yours. Use this quality when networking and connecting with others. This new week, you’ll be introduced to someone who will point you toward a new direction in your career.

Virgo-This week may start off on a sensitive note due to a certain situation that may have happened in your past. Although you’re used to always being someone’s rock, don’t forget you also need someone to lean on. Reach out to someone you trust and confide in them. It is OK to let out those tears, Virgo.

Capricorn-As busy as you may be, it is important to remember to keep your goals within range of your limits. Do not outdo yourself and reach for the impossible if you know it isn’t realistic. Start with small steps and make your way to the top.

Daily Musings

by Ariael Ortiz

All right, class, that is all for today. Have a nice spring break.

WOO-HOO! SPRING BREAK TIME! Time to sit back, relax and have a week of no homework and classes!

And do not forget to have your assignment finished and ready to be presented by the week after spring break!

Sudoku

Last week’s puzzle answer key:

7	9	2	8	5	1	6	4	3
8	4	3	7	6	2	5	1	9
6	1	5	4	3	9	7	2	8
4	7	6	9	8	5	2	3	1
5	3	8	2	1	6	4	9	7
1	2	9	3	7	4	8	5	6
9	8	1	5	4	7	3	6	2
2	5	7	6	9	3	1	8	4
3	6	4	1	2	8	9	7	5

8								
	1		6				5	
	5				2			3
		5		2		4	8	
					5		9	
	2	9		7				6
9							6	
				3			7	
4			2			3		9

Athlete of the Week: Brooke Jessen



Brooke Jessen

PHOTO COURTESY UTRGV ATHLETICS

Freshman forward Brooke Jessen plays for the UTRGV's Women's Basketball Team. She is a native of Spirit Lake, Idaho, where her high school team went to four-straight tournaments. In 2019-2020, she was named High School Girls Athlete of the Year and finished her career with over 1,000 points.

Q: When did you first start playing?

A: "I started playing basketball in third grade."

Q: Did you play in elementary school or was it through another organization?

A: "It was another organization. I have some family friends who started an [American Athletic Union] team and I knew them from my brother playing baseball with their son."

Q: Who is your greatest inspiration?

A: "My greatest inspiration would probably be one of my basketball coaches back home. They always taught me to work hard, work for what I want in life. And that's how I got here. They pushed me every day since third grade."

Q: What do you listen to before games?

A: "Whatever the girls are playing in the locker room. I don't have, like, a set ritual."

Q: What do you do in your time off?

A: "Back home, I'd go hiking and camping. I'd go play kickball, spikeball. But here, in my own time, I just hang out with my roommates. We watch movies or we go do something."

Q: What's an aspect of your sport people don't often think about?

A: "It's definitely a mental game, yeah. Like if some other team gets momentum going, you have to get out of that."

Q: Would you prefer shooting a three-pointer, two-pointer, a layup or a free throw?

A: "I'd say three-pointers, because you get the bench excited and they do celebrations and you get more points."

--Compiled by Landon Burns

From the sandlot to the Hall of Honor

Omar E. Zapata

SPORTS REPORTER

Former Pan American College baseball player and sports historian Rene Torres has been inducted into the UTRGV Athletics Hall of Honor for his contributions to Rio Grande Valley sports history, the recognition he said he dreamt about but never envisioned would become a reality.

The induction took place Feb. 19 in the University Ballroom on the Edinburg campus, along with the Hall of Fame ceremony, which inducted the 1987-90 women's cross-country teams, former men's basketball student athlete Jim Board, former women's tennis student athlete Barbara (Barrera) Gonzales, and former baseball student athlete Joe Hernandez.

"It was certainly a great privilege to join such a list of prestigious Hall of Honor inductees," the Brownsville native told The Rider. "I had dreamt about, you know, reaching that point, but I never envisioned that it would become a reality."

Learning to play baseball in the sandlots of Brownsville, Torres attended legacy institution Pan American College from 1966-69 on a baseball scholarship as a center fielder.

Off the field, he has spread the history of Valley baseball for the last 20 years via oral presentations, exhibits, writings and university journals.

Torres is also a retired assistant professor from legacy institution the University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College.

Bronc Baseball

"I arrived [in Edinburg] in 1966 and I had all my belongings in an H-E-B bag," Torres said. "My pockets were full of hot air and didn't have a single penny in my pocket."

During his first semester and a half, he volunteered at the South Texas Rehabilitation Center for food and a place to stay.

"It was very stressful for me because by taking 12 hours, full-time student and also a student athlete and working full time, that was very challenging for me," Torres said.

He set the program record then for most consecutive games without an error at 46 and is currently tied for seventh overall while ranking fifth among pure outfielders. Torres made just one error in three years as the starting center fielder.

"The traveling itself to different places, playing in different venues, you



COURTESY PHOTO

know, it just revealed how naive I was," Torres said.

He said he would sometimes pinch himself from the wow factor of playing against big schools, such as the University of Texas at Austin, Rice University, and just getting to travel across the country.

The biggest highlight of his career came when the Broncs faced the Longhorns in the 1968 playoffs, the first

run, 2-1. ... One of the biggest victories we had in those years, beating the Longhorns."

Torres would take a brief break from college in 1969 to serve in the U.S. Army National Guard before returning to Pan American University in 1971 for his history degree with a minor in kinesiology.

Valley sports historian

"My first job was teaching in junior high in Brownsville [in 1971]," Torres said. "I was there for eight years. And then in 1979, I started working for the university, which at the time was, you know, Pan American University at Brownsville." He would spend 25 years teaching before

focusing on research and writing about Valley sports history. The inspiration came from reading a sports story about a semi-pro baseball team from California in the Brownsville Herald.

"I said to myself, 'Hey, who's writing about our people? Who's writing about our boys and girls? Who's writing about the semi-pro teams from this area?' And nobody was," Torres said.

See HONOR, Page 8

"I think in order to understand the present, you have to know the past and that's the main thing. There were so many people that contributed to the success of this region, but have been forgotten and I'm bringing them back out."

--Rene Torres

UTRGV Hall of Honor Inductee

year moving up to NCAA Division 1.

Losing the series 2-1, Pan American College won Game 2 with a score of 2-1, marking the first win against UT in program history.

"In the seventh inning, we were down 1-0," Torres said. "I come to the plate and I hit a base hit to bring in the tying run in the seventh. And then, in the 10th inning, I put down a bunt to advance the runner to second [base], and that runner became the winning

THIS WEEK IN SPORTS

BASEBALL
6:30 P.M. TUESDAY VS.
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CORPUS CHRISTI
(HOME)

7 P.M. FRIDAY, 6 P.M. SATURDAY
AND NOON SUNDAY VS.
ABILENE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
(HOME)

WOMEN'S TENNIS
2 P.M. SUNDAY VS.
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA OMAHA
(HOME)

RESULTS

Continued from Page 1

Krause, Aizar Cavazos, Sara Canady, Angela Juarez, John C. Lerma, Steve Schmuker Jr. and Vangela Churchill also ran.

UTRGV Political Science Lecturer Andrew Smith, who is based on the Edinburg campus, told The Rider that the race for District 15 was one of the most interesting, at least on the Democratic ballot, with De La Cruz easily winning the Republican nomination.

“You have a contrast between Ruben Ramirez who is, kind of, a Vicente Gonzalez-type of moderate Democrat, and ... Michelle Vallejo, who is very much on the left wing of the Democratic Party,” Smith said. “So, whoever wins that runoff in May, I mean, it’s gonna lead to a very interesting November election, for sure.”

In the November 2020 election, current Republican nominee De La Cruz lost to then-incumbent Vicente Gonzalez by only 6,588 votes in the District 15 congressional race. She garnered 109,017 votes, compared to Gonzalez’s 115,605.

According to Ballotpedia.com, Texas enacted new congressional districts on Oct. 25, 2021. This caused Gonzalez’s residence to be zoned in Congressional District 34, according to Smith.

Last Tuesday, Gonzalez won the nomination for the Democratic ballot for U.S. Representative, District 34, with 23,408 votes or 64.75%. His rival, Laura Cisneros, garnered 8,425 votes. Beatriz Reynoso, William Thompson, Filemon Meza, Diego Zavala and Osbert Rodriguez Haro also ran.

In the Republican primary, District 34 U.S. representative candidate Mayra Flores won the nomination with 9,479 votes, or 60.39%. Frank McCaffrey received 3,432 votes. Gregory Scott Kunkle Jr. and Juana Cantu-Cabrera also ran. Gonzalez and Flores will face off in the November election.

The race for District 27 state senator was led by Morgan LaMantia on the Democratic ballot with 13,445 votes or 33.75%. Sara Stapleton-Barrera captured 13,037 votes or 32.73%. The two are in a runoff for the position. Alex Dominguez, former District 27 state representative, garnered 10,066 votes.

Adam Hinojosa won the Republican nomination for the same position with

13,314 votes or 50.97% districtwide. Raul Torres received 9,039 votes and Isreal Salinas garnered 3,768.

“You’re going to have two primarily progressive candidates in the Democratic runoff facing against an ultraconservative who won the Republican nomination outright,” Smith said of the race for state senator. “So, it does seem as though the Democratic voters in that district may be ready to move on from [former longtime Democratic incumbent] Eddie Lucio [Jr.], who was one of the most conservative Democrats in any office nationwide.

“Now, the question then becomes, regardless of whether it is Stapleton-Barrera or Morgan LaMantia who wins, the question will then become, is that district itself going to move to the left or is it still conservative and, therefore, may very well go for [Adam Hinojosa] in the November elections.”

Mark Kaswan, a UTRGV political science associate professor who is based on the Brownsville campus, told The Rider that on the Democratic ballot in the race for District 27 state senator, he is “sure Alex Dominguez was a little bit surprised in the runoff.”

“He didn’t run a very heavy campaign and, actually, LaMantia might be disappointed that she didn’t get it outright because she worked really hard,” Kaswan said. “And I thought Sara Stapleton-Barrera wasn’t running a very strong campaign, either. So, that one, I actually had expected it to be Dominguez and LaMantia. So, I’m surprised.”

He said the race is interesting because Stapleton-Barrera is a clear progressive while some may argue that “LaMantia is a Republican in Democratic clothing.” Kaswan said it will be interesting to see how that will play out in the runoffs.

In the race for Texas governor, Republican incumbent Greg Abbott easily won the nomination after receiving 1,286,454 votes statewide. Allen B. West, Don Huffines, Rick Perry, Chad Prather, Kandy Kaye Horn and Danny Harrison also ran.

On the Democratic ballot for governor, Beto O’Rourke won the nomination in a landslide. O’Rourke received 966,096 or 91.34% of votes statewide. Joy Diaz, Michael Cooper, Inocencio “Inno” Barrientez and Rich Wakeland also ran.

Get Lit! Bring Your Own Book a las 3:30 el 24 de marzo por medio de Zoom donde los estudiantes pueden compartir sus recomendaciones de libros para el Mes de la Historia de las Mujeres.

A lo largo del mes, la biblioteca tendrá en muestra una colección de carteles en ambos campus que incluyen recomendaciones de cortometrajes, códigos QR para la transmisión de videos, libros en línea, libros impresos, libros juveniles y material regional.

“Tenemos *LibGuide* que fue creada para el Mes de Historia de las Mujeres y en ella podemos exhibir las diferentes variedades de recursos que ofrecemos”, dijo Raquel Estrada,

to have a new director by August.

“It’s a long process, and we want to make sure we get the best candidate that’s going to fit not only the university, but also our community,” she said. “And we’re really hopeful that one or maybe multiple candidates will be amazing and we’ll have a hard decision. That’s what I’m hoping, that as we continue meeting with them, that we’ll get a really great candidate

because, you know, as far as I’m concerned, you know, the photo is 50% of the story.”

With all the research, he would submit stories to newspapers across the Valley, from The Monitor to the Brownsville Herald and even university journals.

“So, what I was doing was rewriting these stories of people that were successful or contributed to not only sports, but to their communities from the 1920s and ’30s,” Torres said. “So, you know, I think in order to understand the present, you have

Asked what the likelihood is of Texas turning blue in the November election, Kaswan replied that it does not look good for the Democrat in the race for governor.

“Beto O’Rourke would probably have a better chance if he did not run for president,” he said. “But, because he lost [in the 2018 U.S. Senate race] to Ted Cruz, who was a very vulnerable candidate, and then badly in the [2020] presidential race, some people may now see him as kind of a loser. And that would make it very difficult for him to be successful.”

By the same token, Kaswan said there are Republicans who are upset with Abbott, so he is interested to see which way it will go.

In the race for lieutenant governor, Democrat Mike Collier garnered 413,228 votes or 41.52% to Michelle Beckley’s 300,892 votes or 30.23%. Carla Brailey also ran. Collier and Beckley will face each other again in the May runoff.

On the Republican ballot, incumbent Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick won the nomination with 1,412,043 votes. Daniel Miller, Trayce Bradford, Zach Vance, Aaron Sorrells and Todd M. Bullis also ran.

In the state attorney general race, Republican incumbent Ken Paxton, who garnered 816,335 votes or 42.74%, and challenger George P. Bush, who received 435,220 votes or 22.78%, are headed for a runoff in May. Eva Guzman and Louie Gohmert also ran.

The Democratic ballot for attorney general led to a runoff between Rochelle Mercedes Garza, a Brownsville native, who garnered 432,212 votes or 43.12%, and Joe Jaworski, grandson of Watergate special prosecutor Leon Jaworski, with 196,463 votes or 19.6%. Lee Merritt, S. “T-Bone” Raynor and Mike Fields also ran.

“The Republican result was about as expected,” Smith said. “Paxton facing numerous legal problems and some criticism statewide for some of the policy positions he’s taken as attorney general, I think, set him up to be subjected to the runoffs. The Democratic side. The runoff is not unexpected. And really Rochelle Garza, at least in terms of the Valley vote, is not surprising because she is a Brownsvillian. ... The fact is that there’s the potential to have the first woman attorney general in

bibliotecaria de Adquisición y desarrollo de Colecciones. “Tenemos libros electrónicos, libros impresos, medios de comunicación, algunas de las bases de datos y publicaciones son ejemplos de los materiales regionales con los que contamos”.

Estrada dijo que el propósito de *LibGuide* es inspirar desarrollo personal, y estimular la curiosidad intelectual de los estudiantes. Para más información, visite el sitio web.

“Ayuda a entender la historia de en donde hemos estado y a dónde vamos”, dijo. “Durante el Mes de la Historia de las Mujeres, queremos demostrar algunas de los recursos que tenemos porque

that’s a great fit.”

Jazmine Aguilar, a graphic design junior, said it is important for the School of Art and Design to interview and get to know the candidates before hiring.

“You could just see their qualifications on paper, but you won’t really know until you see them talk and interact with people how they really are,” Aguilar said.

to know the past and that’s the main thing. There were so many people that contributed to the success of this region, but have been forgotten and I’m bringing them back out.”

For his work as a sports historian, Torres was inducted into the Rio Grande Valley Sports Hall of Fame, the Leo Najo Baseball Hall of Fame, the Laredo Latin American International Sports Hall of Fame and now the UTRGV Hall of Honor.

“My wife [Lucy Torres] was my biggest supporter throughout the years, because I did spend a lot of

Texas history, I believe the first Hispanic attorney general in Texas history.”

In the race for comptroller of public accounts, Glenn Hegar won the Republican nomination with 1,373,289 votes or 81.62%. Rival Mark V. Goloby garnered 309,164 votes.

Janet T. Dudding led the Democratic ballot for comptroller with 445,382 votes or 46.15% statewide, followed by Angel Luis Vega with 334,686 votes or 34.68%. Tim Mahoney also ran. Dudding and Vega will face off for the position in May.

In the race for commissioner of the General Land Office, Sandragrace Martinez led the Democratic ballot with 310,337 votes or 31.99% statewide, followed by Jay Kleberg with 250,188 votes or 25.79%. The two will face off for the position in the runoff. Michael Lange and Jinny Suh also ran.

The Republican ballot was led by Dawn Buckingham with 671,235 votes or 41.81%, followed by Tim Westley with 238,046 votes or 14.83%. Victor Avila, Weston Martinez, Ben Armenta, Jon Spiers, Don W. Minton and Rufus Lopez also ran. Buckingham and Westley will face off in the runoff in May.

In the race for agriculture commissioner, Susan Hays won the Democratic nomination with 800,848 votes or 82.81% statewide. Ed Ireson received 166,233 votes.

Republican agriculture commissioner incumbent Sid Miller won the nomination with 983,152 votes or 58.48% statewide. James White and Carey A. Counsil also ran.

In the race for railroad commissioner, Democrat Luke Warford ran unopposed and garnered 901,239 votes statewide.

On the Republican ballot for railroad commissioner, incumbent Wayne Christian led statewide with 766,566 votes or 47.19%. Sarah Stogner followed with 245,581 votes or 15.12%. The two will face each other in the May runoff. Tom Slocum Jr., Marvin “Sarge” Summers and Dawayne Tipton also ran.

In the race for District 20 state senator, incumbent Juan ‘Chuy’ Hinojosa ran unopposed on the Democratic ballot, garnering 36,222 votes.

Westley Wright won the Republican nomination with 16,213 votes or 73.17% districtwide. Johnny Partain also ran. The stage is set for Hinojosa and Wright to face off in the November election.

puede haber alguien que esté interesado en un tema en particular y no saben que tenemos los materiales disponibles o pueden estar interesados en leer algo por entretenimiento”.

Estrada dijo lo importante que es celebrar el éxito de las mujeres.

“Como mujer creo que es importante celebrar el Día Internacional de la Mujer porque se remonta a la historia de lo que ha pasado con las mujeres y que tan lejos hemos llegado”, dijo. “Esto debe de ser para todas las mujeres en todas las partes del mundo, algunas de ellas están teniendo problemas, así que siempre es bueno mostrar apoyo”.

--Traducido por Itzel Rivera

She hopes the new director will add more programs and classes on the Brownsville campus.

“Hopefully, [the director] does something good by bringing more exciting things and because, right now, everything’s kind of just very basic,” Aguilar said. “Again, it feels empty. When the new director comes, I would hope [they] would be excited and want to bring new things in.”

time away from home doing research, doing presentations and exhibits,” Torres said. “If you don’t have a good foundation at home, you know, then it’s difficult to do what I did in those 30 years. And, of course, my dad. He showed me the way. My dad was illiterate and he was a car painter back in the 1940s, and ’50s. He was also my biggest influence, because he played hard. During the weekends, he played baseball in the 1930s and worked very hard during the week as a car painter and a body man for Ford for 35 years.”

MES

Continuación de Página 5

“Nunca cobramos una visita al consultorio”, dijo Gray. “Todo lo que tenemos que hacer es recuperar el costo de realizar los exámenes de laboratorio o productos de farmacia. Cómo es su clínica deberían utilizarla tanto como lo necesiten”.

Para más información, visite el sitio web de *UT Health RGV Student Health*.

Recursos de la biblioteca

Este mes, la biblioteca de la universidad organizará eventos, discusiones y recursos para la mujer.

La biblioteca será el anfitrión del *Club*

DIRECTOR

Continued from Page 6

“And then, in the interviews we asked them a lot of questions about, like, have you had multi campus, you know, all the things that we have here. A lot of times, you know, they’re not going to match, but we try and get as close.”

Palacios said the committee’s goal is

HONOR

Continued from Page 7

“So, I took the job, you know, I said, I’m gonna start writing about, you know, this, this area, this region” and mainly baseball at the beginning.”

Doing it the old-school way, in front of microfilm and microfiche, he would spend at least three days of the week doing research at the University Library.

“So, I accumulated a lot of research, I mean, a lot of research,” Torres said. “I’ve got boxes of research. And, you know, then I started collecting photos